

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 JAKART 02048 190920Z

12

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

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FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6637

INFO AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 2048

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ID US EAID

SUBJ: MALIK ON INDONESIAN-US RELATIONS AND PL 480

REF: JAKARTA 2049

BEGIN SUMMARY: IN REMARKS TO PRESS CONFERENCE FEB 14 AFTER MEETING WITH CZECHOSLOVAK TRADE AND IAD DELEGATION, FONMIN MALIK SAID RELATIONS BETWEEN INDONESIA AND US RECENTLY HAVE BEEN "RATHER UNSETTLED," LIKE US RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES. HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT US WOULD IMPLEMENT PL 480 AID, "WHICH HAS NOT YET BEEN REALIZED." MALIK'S COMMENTS ABOUT US RELATIONS AND AID, WHICH WERE PRECEDED BY ANNOUNCEMENT THAT HE WOULD VISIT PRAGUE, BUCHAREST AND SOFIA IN MARCH AND POSITIVE COMMENTS ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR CZECH AID, ARE SYMPTOM OF GOI CONCERN OVER DECLINING US AID AND MAY REFLECT FAINT HOPE THAT GOI CAN USE SEARCH FOR SOCIALIST AID AS LEVER FOR CONTINUING HIGH US AID LEVELS. END SUMMARY

1. BEFORE MAKING COMMENTS ON US RELATIONS AND AID,  
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PAGE 02 JAKART 02048 190920Z

MALIK SAID HE PLANS TO VISIT CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN MARCH TO

SIGN ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT--WHICH CZECH DELEGATION NEGOTIATED DURING JAKARTA VISIT--AND ALSO EAST GERMANY AND ROMANIA. HE WAXED OPTIMISTIC OVER PROSPECTS FOR CZECH AID. (SEE REFTEL FOR MORE ON CZECH DELEGATION'S VISIT AND PROPOSED \$150 MILLION, 6 PER CENT, 15 YEAR CZECH CREDIT TO GOI.)

2. ACCORDING FEB 15 KOMPAS VERSION OF MALIK'S REMARKS, HE COMMENTED ON US RELATIONS IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION ABOUT STATEMENT HE HAD EARLIER MADE AT SIGNING OF \$24.7 MILLION USAID ANTI-MALARIA LOAN FEB 7 TO THE EFFECT THAT HE HOPED US WOULD MEET PL 480 COMMITMENT TO GOI. MALIK ANSWERED THAT UNTIL NOW, US AID IN FORM OF COTTON, WHEAT AND RICE HAS NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED, WHEREAS IN PAST YEARS IT WAS ALREADY UNDERWAY BY DECEMBER.

3. ELABORATING ON HIS COMMENT ABOUT THE "UNSETTLED" NATURE OF INDONESIAN-US RELATIONS, MALIK SAID THIS IS ALSO THE CASE WITH US RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES, CITING THE CANCELLATION OF THE US-SOVIET TRADE AGREEMENT AS AN EXAMPLE. MALIK DESCRIBED US DIFFICULTIES AS "STRANGE," SAYING IT WAS DIFFICULT FOR GOI TO UNDERSTAND THE PROBLEMS THE US IS HAVING IN ITS FOREIGN RELATIONS. HE SUGGESTED THAT PERHAPS THE REASON FOR THIS WAS THAT "PRESIDENT FORD IS STILL NEW."

4. ACCORDING TO SINAR HARAPAN REPORT ON MALIK'S COMMENTS FEB 15, ANOTHER UNNAMED GOI FONDEPT OFFICIAL RECENTLY SAID "IT IS NOT SURPRISING THAT HIGH OFFICIALS OF THE US EMBASSY ARE NOW, FOR EXAMPLE, EXPANDING THEIR COMMUNICATIONS WITH INDONESIAN LEADERS BECAUSE THEY ARE HAVING INCREASING DIFFICULTIES EXPLAINING THEIR FOREIGN POLICY."

5. COMMENT: MALIK'S UNSUBTLE REEMARKS, IN CONTEXT OF PRESS CONFERENCE ON CZECH AID AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND FORTHCOMING TRIP TO EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, ARE SYMPTOM OF GOI CONCERN OVER DECLINING US AID, AND MAY POSSIBLY REPRESENT HOPE WITHIN GOI THAT EFFORT TO ATTRACT SOCIALIST AID WILL PROMPT US TO RESTORE FORMER LEVEL

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PAGE 03 JAKARTA 02048 190920Z

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## Message Attributes

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